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MN20.

Anncr:

Next, an editorial reflecting the views of the U.S. Government.

Voice:

A political impasse accompanied by violence is threatening the transition to a coalition government in Rwanda. On February 21st, Rwandan Minister of Public Works and Energy Felicien Gatabazi was murdered by unknown assailants outside his home. In recent demonstrations at least eight people were killed and a political party leader was murdered the day after Mr. Gatabazi's assassination. The United States condemns these murders and calls for a swift investigation so that the perpetrators can be identified and brought to justice.

success of
the peace
process

and
dozens of
civilians
were
killed
in
civil
unrest
in
the
days
that
followed.

The Arusha accord, signed on August 4th, 1993, ended nearly three years of war between the government and the Rwandan Patriotic Front. The agreement also laid the groundwork for a transitional governing coalition constituted by the five parties currently in the government as well as the Rwandan Patriotic Front. Political haggling among the parties, however, has prevented the transition from moving forward. Negotiations to resolve the disagreements are continuing.

and of refugees
from earlier
periods of
violence

Political instability also poses a threat to the voluntary return of Rwandans displaced by the war. To assist those returning home, the U.S. provided more than thirty-five million dollars in

The
transition
government
is to
lead the
country to
democratic
elections

humanitarian aid in 1993. Other U.S. assistance has been focused

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the displaced persons and refugees

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on budget reform, democratization, promotion of private enterprise, family planning and AIDS prevention.

The U.S. would like to see peace take root in Rwanda so that displaced Rwandans can return home safely. The longer the political impasse drags on, the greater the risk of further violence. The U.S. urges Rwanda's leaders to act in the national interest so that a new government can be formed and the peace accords fully implemented. The U.S. calls on all sides to renounce violence and commit themselves to national reconciliation.

and the country can complete its transition to democracy

Anncr:

That was an editorial reflecting the views of the U.S. Government.

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